

"S" Endorsement Test Locations

The knowledge test will be administered on a walk-in basis on the hour at the following locations:

Andover – 57 River Road

Greater Lawrence Technical School (Frank Vacirca Performing Arts Center)

June 1, 11, 13 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)
June 16 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Bourne – 220 Sandwich Road

Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School (Main Cafeteria)

June 9, 23 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)
June 30 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)

Charlestown - 240 Medford Street

Charlestown High School (Cafeteria)

June 11 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)
June 13, 15 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Danvers – 1 Ferncroft Road

North Shore Community College

June 10, 30 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)
June 23 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Fall River – 251 Stonehaven Road

Diman Vocational Regional Technical High School (Auditorium)

June 3, 14, 15 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Framingham – 750 Winter Street

Joseph P. Keefe Technical High School (Auditorium)

June 6 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)
June 8, 18, 28 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)

Gill – 52 Main Road

FM Kuzmeskus Bus Company

June 6, 7 (9am, 10am, 11am, 12pm)

Hanover – 476 Webster Street

South Shore Vocational Technical High School (Lecture Hall)

June 6, 16 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)
June 27 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Lexington – 251 Waltham Street

Lexington High School

June 2 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)
June 29 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)

Norfolk – 22 Myrtle Street

Holmes Bus Company

June 7 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Palmer – 240 Sykes Street

Pathfinder Regional

June 1, 13, 21 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)
June 18 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)

Pittsfield – 1 Wendell Avenue

Berkshire Athenaeum (Auditorium)

June 1, 22 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)
June 8 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

S. Easton – 205 Foundry Street

South Easton Regional School (Cinema 1)

June 2, 16, 18 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)
June 22 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Templeton – 460 Balwinville Road

Narraganset Regional High School (College Lecture Hall)

June 23 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)
June 29 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Waltham – 617 Lexington Street

Waltham High School (Cafeteria)

June 22 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)

Westford – 20 West Street

Blanchard Middle School (Auditorium)

June 21, 22, 23 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)

Worcester – 486 Chandler Street

Worcester State College (Learning Resource Center)

June 9 (5pm, 6pm, 7pm)
June 7, 11, 27 (8am, 9am, 10am, 11am)

Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles

1 Copley Place
Boston, MA 02116
617-351-4500

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles



School Bus "S" Endorsement

Due to the federal Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (MCSIA), beginning September 30, 2005, all school bus operators must have a school bus "S" endorsement on their Commercial Driver's Licenses, in addition to a DTE school bus certificate. Your ability to operate a school bus will be affected by this new requirement. Read the enclosed information and ensure that you take all the necessary steps to obtain an "S" endorsement. If you do not, you will not be allowed to drive a school bus after September 30, 2005.

Why?

You need an "S" Endorsement

In 1999, Congress passed the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (MCSIA), which amended Title 49 of the United States Code relating to the licensing, testing, and sanctioning of commercial motor vehicle drivers required to hold a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Section 214 of MCSIA mandated that the new "S" endorsement be created for school bus operators.

When?

You need an "S" Endorsement

All school bus operators must have an "S" endorsement on their Commercial Driver's Licenses by September 30, 2005. If you do not get the endorsement by September 30, you will not be able to drive a school bus.

How?

You Get an "S" Endorsement

To be eligible for an "S" endorsement, you must do the following:

1. Pay all applicable fees.
2. Pass a knowledge test that covers at least three safety specific topic areas based on federal standards. Every school bus operator must pass this test.

Plan on taking the knowledge test in June to ensure that you get the endorsement by September 30.

This test will be administered at 17 sites throughout the state. See "**Locations**" for a complete list of sites.

Note: You may be required to take a skills test if you do not meet certain criteria (see next question for an explanation of this requirement).

Need?

Do I Have to Take the Knowledge and Skills Tests if I Currently Operate a School Bus?

All school bus operators need to pass the knowledge test. There are no exceptions. Some school bus operators may also need to take a skills test. You will **not** need to take a skills test if:

- You have been regularly employed by a school bus company for the previous 2 years; or you have taken a school bus skills test since September 30, 2002.
- You have not been convicted of any disqualifying offenses as defined in Section 383.51 (b), 49 Code of Federal Regulation.

Knowledge Test

The written knowledge test will consist of 20 multiple choice questions that cover at least three safety specific topic areas. The test is not timed; you can take as much time as you need to complete the test.

Note: Due to the volume of exams that will be given, test results will not be available on the day of the test. If you pass the test, you will receive your new license in the mail in August or September. If you fail, you will receive a notification letter in July providing options for retesting.

Preparation

Study Section 10 (version 080904) of the 2004 Model Commercial Driver's License Manual. The questions on the knowledge test will be based on the information from Section 10, so you should be familiar with this information before taking the test.

Note: In some cases, the federal standards conflict with Massachusetts standards (see Section 10 cover letter for a complete list of conflicting standards).

The knowledge test answers will be based on the federal standards. However, when operating a school bus in Massachusetts, you must always follow Massachusetts standards.

What Do I Need to Bring?

You need to bring the following to the knowledge test:

- Your current valid Commercial Driver's License
- Your completed *Affidavit for Waiver of School Bus Endorsement Skills Test* (You will receive a blank affidavit in the mail if our records indicate that you may be exempt from the skills test.)

You must also provide your school bus company's name and address at the test site.

Knowledge Test Fees

The fee for the knowledge test is \$10. The fee for the new license is \$15. If paying by check or money order, make payable to the RMV for \$25 and mail it with the payment coupon at the bottom of the letter you received to the address on the coupon. To pay by credit card, call the RMV's Telephone Center at 617-351-4500 (this payment option is available beginning June 1).

Note: Payment must be received by September 1. You cannot pay at test site.

Pass the Knowledge Exam?



If you do not need to take a skills test, you will receive your new license in the mail in August or September and the process is complete.

If you are required to take a skills test, see the "Skills Test" section below.

Fail the Knowledge Exam?



If you fail the knowledge test, you will be allowed to retake it for no additional fee, as many times as you need to until you pass (up to September 30).

Unavailable to Take the Test?

If you are unable to take the knowledge test during the scheduled dates in June, there will be very limited dates and locations available after June. Contact your bus company for more information.

Skills Test

The skills test is administered by the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (DTE). For information on test sites and locations and to schedule a skills test, contact your bus company.

Skills Test Fees

You must pay \$20 to the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (DTE) at the time of the skills test.

Your New License

If you meet all of the requirements for an "S" endorsement, you will receive your new license in the mail in either August or September.